

MIDDLE SCHOOL CIA  
MON, APRIL 21, 2008

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Employment/Positions:

Some open positions: many MS Science (034,234,235), more to come?

Ninth grade science/Chemistry

No Bio openings anticipated.

Requests for transfer must be approved by both principals and supervisor.

Teachers leaving system are asked to informally inform supervisor. (Resignation before June STILL saves health benefits for summer).

IDEAS???

Summer Programs:

2,3,4<sup>th</sup> grade with UNH.

BioDiversity Peabody still has slots

Others... see CT Science Connection newsletter emailed.

Science Fair:

Registrations finalized Wed, Apr 23<sup>rd</sup>.

7/8 Science teachers don't HAVE to run fair for school!

Curriculum:

Draft of [7<sup>th</sup> grade](#), [8<sup>th</sup> grade additional units](#) online.

FEEDBACK WANTED!!!!!! On all curriculum, ideas for other activities, projects, labs, assessments, etc... send via email!

DISTRICT Committee: to look at time and schedules for science.

Info/feedback wanted:

What happens during CMT?

How much science does EVERY student get?

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TOPIC of the DAY:

Issues based Science

WHY?

HOW?

WHAT?



Resources:

“Society and Science” Decision Making Episodes for Exploring Society, Science and Technology Stahl

Dr. X and the Quest for Food Safety Interactive Video (46:00 min.)

<http://www.cfsan.fda.gov/~comm/vltdrx.html>

Science And Our Food Supply: Curriculum <http://www.foodsafety.gov/~fsg/teach.html>

Event Based Science Modules: Volcano, Earthquake, Asteroid, Hurricane

Online resources:

National Center for Case Study Teaching in Science

<http://ublib.buffalo.edu/libraries/projects/cases/case.html>

Case Study Teaching in Science Bibliography:

<http://ublib.buffalo.edu/libraries/projects/cases/teaching/casebiblio.html>

FORCES OF NATURE

<http://library.thinkquest.org/C003603/english/index.shtml>

What are some ways we can use this with middle school students?

What are the structures needed?

How will you get the students talking/discussing with each other?

EXAMPLE:

Slippery Slope landslide: [http://ublib.buffalo.edu/libraries/projects/cases/landslide\\_notes.html](http://ublib.buffalo.edu/libraries/projects/cases/landslide_notes.html)  
SLIPPERY SLOPE OF LITIGATING GEOLOGIC HAZARDS:  
CALIFORNIA'S PORTOGUESE BEND LANDSLIDE

DISCUSSION NOTES:

What does YOUR GROUP think the main cause of the landslide was?

Earthquake      Vibration from Construction      Added Mass to the head of the slide

Added Mass to the "toe" of the slide      Vibration from traffic

Added water from septic system to the clay/groundwater      volcanic ash

Weakening of clay from detergents      wave erosion at the toe

WHY?

WHO SHOULD PAY FOR "FIXING" THE SLIDE?

The homeowners on the hillside      the company who built the homes

The people in Rolling Hills (north of the slide)

the company who built Crenshaw Blvd      the company who built Palos Verdes Drive

the company who built the septic systems      geologists who helped the county

the county of Los Angeles who approved the roads

WHY?

WRITING ASSIGNMENT: Who is responsible for protecting against landslides? (in general) . Discuss your opinion, and what you think the role of individual people, scientists, companies, and local and state governments should be in protecting against landslides. What should each do, and why?

(3-5 paragraphs)

THEN:

Meet as a class and DECIDE!